

The Times-Dispatch
DAILY—WEEKLY—SUNDAY.
Business Office 516 E. Main Street,
Washington Bureau—212-7 Munsey Building,
Manchester Bureau—1102 High Street,
Petersburg Bureau—40 N. Ryancourt St.,
Lynchburg Bureau—215 Eighth St.
BY MAIL. One Six Three One
POSTAGE PAID. Year. Mo. Mo. Mo.
Daily with Sunday, \$1.00 \$1.00 \$1.00
Daily without Sunday, 40c 40c 40c
Sunday edition only, 20c 20c 20c
Weekly (Wednesday), 1.00 1.00 1.00
By Times-Dispatch Carrier Delivery Service in Richmond and suburbs, Manchester and Petersburg—One Week, One Year.
Daily with Sunday, 14c 14c 14c
Daily without Sunday, 10c 10c 10c
Sunday only, 5c 5c 5c
(Yearly subscriptions payable in advance.)
Entered January 27, 1907, at Richmond, Va., as second-class matter under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.
MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 1908.

Campaign Contributions

The Times-Dispatch will receive, acknowledge and forward to the treasurer of the National Democratic Campaign Committee all amounts sent it for this purpose.

THE BRIDGE COMMISSIONERS' ANSWER.

According to the report of Mr. Whiteley, chief engineer of the Passenger and Power Company, "The bridge is in no worse condition than it was the day Mr. Scarborough made his report. This is a gratifying announcement, and one that we are glad to see emanating from so reliable an authority. The Times-Dispatch, however, has never said that the bridge was absolutely dangerous and should be condemned. We have only given currency to Mr. Scarborough's report, which declared that the bridge was liable to be overloaded at any time, and, when overloaded, was absolutely unsafe. Doubtless the Free Bridge will continue for years to carry carefully spaced traffic at a snail's pace.

In conjunction with Mr. Whiteley's report, the bridge commissioners have at last designed to break silence with the statement that they have no authority to do more than spend the revenues which they now receive from rentals of the bridge to street car, telephone and telegraph companies. No one, so far as The Times-Dispatch knows, has ever suggested that the bridge commissioners had authority to build a bridge without more ado, but we take it, from a very careful perusal of the act under which this body was created, that they have the right as the guardians of the bridge to represent to the cities of Richmond and Manchester the need for enlargement or replacement of the present structure.

Suppose a freight or an ice barge washes away the Free Bridge, would the commissioners then maintain that they were only the agents to administer the revenues? We think not. But do not the reports of the engineers and the common sense of all the citizens join in declaring that the present bridge is wholly insufficient to handle the traffic between Richmond and Manchester? If so, why do the bridge commissioners delay in making a formal report and in calling on the Councils of Richmond and Manchester to deal with this condition?

THE WASTE OF DAYLIGHT.
Already the shortening days give unpleasant intimations of the approach of winter. No wonder that the autumn is melancholy, and no wonder that from the beginning of history mankind has celebrated the turning of the sun to longer days with the great feast of nature.
Our attention is especially directed to these conditions by a pamphlet just received from William Willett on "The Waste of Daylight." Mr. Willett has been leading the fight in England for setting back the hands of the clock in the spring so as to begin the day's work earlier, and thereby close it earlier, leaving a longer measure of sunlight in the afternoon. The matter has made such progress that a special report from a selected committee of the House of Commons has gone so far as to agree that it would be well to set the hands of the clock back one hour in April, and then set the hands forward one hour in September. The reasons that led the committee to these conclusions are that it would move the usual hours of work and leisure nearer to sunrise; it would permit the greater use of daylight for recreative purposes of all kinds; it would lessen the use of alcoholic stimulants; it would benefit the physique, general health and welfare of all classes, and would finally reduce the industrial and commercial and domestic expenditure on artificial light.

In England it is figured that 210 hours of daylight will be gained by beginning the day nearer sunrise, and, as there are 4,500,000 people in England, Mr. Willett figures that the annual saving would be in the neighborhood of \$10,000,000 for money spent for artificial light, or, taking off one-third, he figures the minimum saving would be \$3,000,000. But apart from this, it would mean that in Virginia, for example, the sun would not set until 8:30 on the longest days in June, while the banks would close at what is now 2 o'clock, giving everybody an hour longer to spend in the open air in such pleasures or pursuits as he might desire. It seems that England has made large progress towards this purpose, and nothing is needed but the co-operation of all the nations to add the great benefit of daylight to all civilized people.

GOLD AND PRICES.
Gold has been piling up at a rate which has given rise to the widespread belief that there must be a great advance in prices. The theory of this belief is that gold is being produced more rapidly, for example, than corn, and the value of these commodities, when measured in terms of gold, must therefore appreciate. In this connection it is important to notice the statistics showing the stock of gold in the world. The figures are as follows:

hours of daylight will be gained by beginning the day nearer sunrise, and, as there are 45,660,000 people in England, Mr. Willett figures that the annual saving would be in the neighborhood of \$15,000,000 for money spent for artificial light, or, taking off one third, he figures the minimum saving would be \$10,000,000. But apart from this, it would mean that in Virginia, for example, the sun would not set until 8:30 on the longest days in June, while the banks would close at what is now 2 o'clock, giving everybody an hour longer to spend in the open air in such pleasures or pursuits as he might desire. It seems that England has made large progress towards this purpose, and nothing is needed but the co-operation of all the nations to add the great benefit of daylight to all civilized people.

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